

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
 60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 FAX: 404-562-5875 JOHNNY FREEMAN: 404-562-5870
 INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> RECORDING: 404-562-5856

March 18, 2005

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 19-Mar-05 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/19/05	03/12/05
Broiler/fryer	162,655	165,098
Light hens	1,307	1,761
Heavy hens	1,371	1,327

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

WEEK ENDING 12-Mar-05 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head			
Head sltr Comparisons	NOT AVAILABLE		
Last Week			
Same week yr ago			
To-date/2005			
To-date/2004			

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Total U. S. fowl slaughter in the U. S. and Canada

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head			
Head sltr Comparisons	NOT AVAILABLE		
Last Week			
Same week yr ago			
To-date/2005			
To-date/2004			

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 12-Mar-05 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	157,630	1,720	1,317	3,037
Avg Wt	5.16	3.38	7.99	5.38
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	160,095	1,547	1,451	2,998
Same wk yr ago	153,179	1,344	1,165	2,509
Avg Wt	5.06	3.43	8.15	5.62
To-date/2005	1,568,694	14,535	12,919	27,454
To-date/2004	1,532,632	12,737	12,646	25,383

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 161.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.5 million head or 2.4 million less than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 05-Mar-05

	(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	26,451	23,762	51,490
Avg Weight	3.56	4.70	6.35
% of total /1	26%	23%	51%
Last week	27,994	20,402	50,222
Avg Weight	3.67	4.75	6.39
% of total /1	28%	21%	51%
Same week, yr ago /2	25,738	21,046	49,219
Avg Weight	3.80	4.72	6.93
% of total /1	27%	22%	51%
To date/2005	234,348	192,182	432,813
To date/2004	227,293	191,472	383,146

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 12-Mar-05
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
Head	1,551	2,477	10	3	4,041
Avg Wt	16.59	37.81	25.62	55.91	29.65
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	1,466	2,470	25	0	3,961
Same wk yr ago	1,646	2,589	70	7	4,312
Avg Wt	15.95	36.37	25.55	23.16	28.38
To-date/2005	15,250	25,020	277	35	40,582
To-date/2004	16,843	24,580	423	88	41,934

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.